
E-ALERT is compiled based on an email service we receive from the Department of State's Office of International Information Programs. We are sending it to you to alert you of the latest issues and debates in the United States.

It covers (1) U.S. Federal government documents, especially those from executive branch departments and those from the Congressional branch - - Committees, the U.S. General Accounting Office, and the Congressional Budget Office; (2) policy briefs from major private think tanks, especially those in Washington; and (3) major reports from national professional associations. A few new high quality, high relevance think tank-sponsored books are also listed.

Please contact the Information Resource Center if you have problem retrieving any of the documents listed. To cancel this service, please reply to the present message and type "unsubscribe" as the text of your message.

Title Index

- [Item#1](#) Becoming American: Beyond the Melting Pot
- [Item#2](#) Containing the Atom: Paul Nitze and the Tradition of Non-Use of Nuclear
- [Item#3](#) Dealing With Nuclear North Korea
- [Item#4](#) History Repeat?: NRA Has Blocked New Gun Laws After Tragedies Like Tucson
- [Item#5](#) How Important Are Inheritances for Baby Boomers?
- [Item#6](#) International Trade and Finance: Key Policy Issues for the 112th Congress
- [Item#7](#) New Decade, New Hopes for Job Growth
- [Item#8](#) A Tale of Two Ports: Gwadar and Chabahar Display Chinese-Indian Rivalry in the Arabian Sea
- [Item#9](#) U.S. Deepwater Drilling's Future
- [Item#10](#) Visa Security Policy: Roles of the Department of State and Homeland Security

Reports

[Item#1](#)
Becoming American: Beyond the Melting Pot. International Information Program, U.S. Department of State. January 2011.

The United States is often referred to as the "Great Melting Pot," a metaphor that connotes the blending of many cultures, languages and religions to form a single national identity. But this metaphor

fails to capture the slow, complex and frequently turbulent process by which immigrants of diverse backgrounds and beliefs join U.S. society, even as they transform it.

Full Text:

http://www.america.gov/media/pdf/ejs/en_0111_immigration.pdf#popup [PDF format, 32 pages].

Item#2

Containing the Atom: Paul Nitze and the Tradition of Non-Use of Nuclear. Center for Strategic & International Studies. Reid Pauly. January 11, 2011.

On a rainy day in June 1982, two men sat on a log in the forest outside of Geneva, Switzerland. Far from the White House and the Kremlin, Paul Nitze and Yuli Kvitszinsky's frank discussion on that afternoon demonstrated that the unlimited proliferation of nuclear arsenals was not predestined, and that individuals long associated with unflinching commitments to nuclear strength could now seriously envision a world without the existence of threatening nuclear arms. The biggest surprise was on the American side, as Paul Nitze, a fixture of the U.S. defense establishment since World War II and the hawkish author of NSC-68, had come to believe in the idea of completely eliminating nuclear weapons.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

http://csis.org/files/publication/110111_pauly_containing_atom.pdf [PDF format, 22 pages].

Item#3

Dealing With Nuclear North Korea. YaleGlobal. Bennett Ramberg. January 10, 2011.

North Korea's newly revealed uranium-enrichment program continues to advance. No amount of sticks or carrots – negotiations, incentives, sanctions, waiting for the regime to fall – has slowed the North's determination in building its nuclear arsenal, writes the author. Dealing with a state that's otherwise undeveloped, isolated and paranoid remains a leading source of global tension. Recent aggression from the North would seem to preclude one solution, unconditional recognition. Diplomacy would reduce the isolation of North Korea that so far has assured power for its leaders. At the same time, the international community must demonstrate no tolerance of nuclear proliferation.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/dealing-nuclear-north-korea> [HTML format, various paging].

Item#4

History Repeat?: NRA Has Blocked New Gun Laws After Tragedies Like Tucson. Center for Public Integrity. Peter H. Stone. January 11, 2011.

The killing spree by an Arizona man wielding a semiautomatic pistol with a high-capacity magazine raises the prospect of a fresh debate on whether the country needs tougher gun controls.

[Note: contains copyrighted material]

Full Text:

<http://www.publicintegrity.org/articles/entry/2818/> [HTML format, various paging].

Item#5

How Important Are Inheritances for Baby Boomers? Center for Retirement Research at Boston College. Alicia H. Munnell et al. January 2011.

Due to a changing retirement landscape, many baby boomers are likely to have insufficient resources for a secure retirement. One potential source that could improve their situation is inheritances. The study quantifies the aggregate amount of inheritances that baby boomers, those individuals born between 1946 and 1964, can expect to receive over their lifetimes, and the distribution of past and prospective receipts by household type.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

http://crr.bc.edu/images/stories/Briefs/IB_11-1.pdf [PDF format, 8 pages].

Item#6

International Trade and Finance: Key Policy Issues for the 112th Congress. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Raymond J. Ahearn. December 30, 2010.

The 112th Congress faces a full agenda of international trade and finance issues. Early in 2011, the Obama Administration is expected to ask Congress to approve a free trade agreement (FTA) with South Korea and possibly FTAs with Colombia and Panama. The Administration is seeking to conclude the much larger ten year-old World Trade Organization's (WTO) Doha Round of multilateral trade negotiations, which, if completed, would also require congressional approval. The Administration is also negotiating a Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) Agreement, a regional FTA that currently includes nine countries on both sides of the Pacific.

Full Text:

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/R41553.pdf> [PDF format, 27 pages].

Item#7

New Decade, New Hopes for Job Growth. Brookings Institution. Michael Greenstone and Adam Looney. January 7, 2011.

The December employment number released today by the U.S. Department of Labor, show signs of improvement in the labor market. The economy added 103,000 jobs last month, although encouraging after last month's disappointing growth, this is not large enough to absorb new entrants and make a dent in the "job gap," explained in the report. However, unemployment fell to 9.4 percent.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2011/0107_jobs_greenstone_looney.aspx [HTML format, various paging].

Item#8

A Tale of Two Ports: Gwadar and Chabahar Display Chinese-Indian Rivalry in the Arabian Sea. YaleGlobal. Christopher Jaffrelot. January 7, 2011.

A common strategy in geopolitical rivalries is to accrue alliances, strengthen positions and counter competitors. Two ports in the Arabian Sea, one in Iran and another Pakistan, demonstrate an emerging contest for power in the Arabian Sea, explains Christophe Jaffrelot, China helps Pakistan with its port at Gwadar while India assists Iran with the port at Chabahar. The development entails rail lines, highways and other massive construction projects and signals that the emerging Asian giants seek connections while resisting encirclement by rivals. Some of the new alliances make for strange bedfellows and, depending on political or military events, may not last for long.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/tale-two-ports> [HTML format, various paging].

Item#9

U.S. Deepwater Drilling's Future. Council on Foreign Relations. Toni Johnson. January 7, 2011.

The Gulf of Mexico oil spill spotlights the growth of deepwater drilling and the challenges of balancing strong environmental regulation with efforts to expand U.S. domestic oil production.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

http://www.cfr.org/publication/22204/us_deepwater_drillings_future.html [HTML format, various paging].

Item#10

Visa Security Policy: Roles of the Department of State and Homeland Security. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Ruth Ellen Wasem. December 16, 2010.

Foreign nationals not already legally residing in the United States who wish to come to the U.S. generally must obtain a visa to be admitted, with certain exceptions noted in law. The Departments of State (DOS) and Homeland Security (DHS) each play key roles in administering the law and policies on the admission of aliens. Although the DOS's Consular Affairs is responsible for issuing visas, the U.S. Citizenship and Immigrant Services (USCIS) in DHS approves immigrant petitions, the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in DHS operates the Visa Security Program in selected embassies abroad, and the Customs and Border Protection (CBP) in DHS inspects all people who enter the United States.

Full Text:

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/homesec/R41093.pdf> [PDF format, 24 pages].